GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5745
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2005
FIRING ON BORDER
Harsha Kumar Shri G.V.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a violation of the agreement which led to the Bangladesh Rifles-BSF firing along the border;

(b) if so, whether the Government has held any talks with Bangladesh in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of the discussions; and

(d) the outcome thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) to (d) : There has been no violation of guidelines from the Indian side. Bangladesh Rifles has been consistently misinterpreting para 8 (e) of Joint India Bangladesh Guidelines for Border Authorities - 1975 to emphasize that fence is a structure having defence potential. Hence BDR is objecting to the construction of border fence within 150 yards of the IB and resorted to firing. This issue has been discussed with the Bangladesh Government at various levels including Home Secretary level talks, DG, BSF and DG, BDR talks.

The issue has also been taken up with them through normal diplomatic channel. The response from the Bangladesh Government is not favourable.